

## THE HAWAIIAN STAR

DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

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FRANK L. HOOVER, Manager

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## A CANARD.

A paragraph which has been going the rounds of the papers on the mainland, and has been copied here reads as follows:

"Rose C. Davison, Hawaiian commissioner to the Buffalo Pan-American Fair, is at the Sherman House. With her are two Hawaiian women, M. Mapuano Smith and H. Karpo Phillips. Miss Davison said: 'I have come to learn something that might add to the felicity of our island people. Frankly I don't expect to find it. We are sufficient unto ourselves. Your overworked Chicago youths ought to come out to our islands and marry some of the nice Hawaiian girls, who have plenty of money and who want white husbands. They are lovely as dreams and as rich as the ordinary American heiress.'"

Any one who knows Miss Davison would know that she never talked any such nonsense as this. The real facts of the case are contained in a letter from Miss Davison which has been handed to The Star for publication. She says:

"When we reached Chicago we had to remain there one day before continuing our journey westward, and I put up at the Sherman House. Fully eight reporters called to interview me, but as my duties as Commissioner were at an end I thought it unnecessary for me to have any conversation with them, and then, I suppose they were offended and published it in several of their papers as coming directly from myself. This article was copied by several other eastern papers, and while there is not much to it, it has proven very annoying. I enclose you one of the clippings, and in case any of these papers reach Honolulu and are copied by any of our own papers you will have a clear understanding of the whole affair."

"When we reached the Palace Hotel fully 25 letters in the form of answers to this article were awaiting me, but after reading one letter I reserved the others for the waste paper basket."

It is not very much to the credit of the Chicago reporter or reporters to have faked up this story. That they were very much out of their reckoning and had no knowledge of the party really, is shown by Miss Phillips, who is an American lady being put down as an Hawaiian, and being supplied with an Hawaiian name of Chicago manufacture, and as a philologist the reporter was not a success.

It will be remembered that it was a Chicago paper which published an account of some young Hawaiian people insulting the ex-Queen on the overland train, a story which had not one word of truth in it, from beginning to end, but which caused deep annoyance to many families until the affair was cleared up. Miss Davison has shown her perfect good sense in waste paper basketing the letters that the paragraph called forth, and the "fake" will die its own death as other fakes have before it, but it was ungallant of the Chicago men to so misrepresent a lady. It is not honest and therefore ungentlemanly journalism.

## LAW AND JUSTICE.

The effect of the recent decisions on the Habeas Corpus cases, upon the Japanese mind must be peculiar. Indeed it is peculiar. The Japanese prisoners do not understand why they were released, and they do not know why they were re-arrested, and no doubt they think that the law outside of Japan is a very curious kind of law. It is improbable that any of the Japanese prisoners will ever appreciate the nice points of law which have been brought forward, and which have resulted in their being freed and re-arrested.

But the law has been justified of her children, and if a thick headed Japanese laborer cannot understand the situation that is his fault, and not the fault of the law. Law is blind. Indeed Scott says of a legal proposition "this may sound the most utter nonsense, but it may be none the less good law for all that." Indeed law is constantly doing injustice. Law ruins at times the honest man, and puts money into the pockets of rogues. Law is a science which unscrupulous men can put to very evil purpose, and have been misusing for centuries and centuries past. The amount of injustice done by law is probably incalculable. Men's property has been torn from them, orphans have been robbed, widows have been injured all by due process of law. On the other hand law has saved many from injustice. The probability is that much depends upon the judge and still more upon the advocate.

Naturally the believer in the abstract justice of the law says, "Yes, but the jury." And what is the jury? In small places it is generally bound to be prejudiced, in very large places it is apt to be ignorant and venal. It is argued as far as juries are concerned that all men on that jury must agree. That is the law as far as juries go. But the law which is to guide minor judges and juries is decided not by a unanimous decision, but by a majority decision. The very reasoning which has brought about the present action of the First Circuit Court is based upon the very narrow majority of one. There were five Supreme Court judges who passed the decision upon which that court acts and there were four, including the Chief Justice, against it. The reasoning of the minority was extremely cogent, and the weight of the opinion was most striking. Yet majority ruled for the fate of millions, while unanimity must rule for the fate of one.

The Star makes no contention as to either what is right or what is wrong. It simply points out an anomaly. Some of these days a great lawyer will arise who will take up these questions, try

to reconcile the anomalies and make law and justice harmonize. His followers may succeed, but he will break as all eminent reformers have done, his heart in the struggle, and probably earn the execration of those for whose welfare he sacrificed himself. The true reformer apparently fails, but his spirit succeeds. The charlatan apparently succeeds, but really fails.

## CHINESE PROSPECTS.

The prospects in China seem worse than ever. As the Western powers put portions of the occupied country again into the hands of the Imperial authorities, lawlessness and crime at once break forth. The telegraph wires outside of Tien Tsin have been cut again and again, and, unless a very active patrol is kept up the whole way from Tien Tsin to Peking, the railroad track is bound to suffer. If this should be the case, the legations and their garrisons may again be cut off.

Since the Legations were relieved and Western troops occupied Peking, the battered legations have been rebuilt and surrounded by a defensible wall, on three sides, the fourth being defended by the old city wall. If this city, within a city for that is what it practically is, is kept well provisioned, as any regular fortress is, and has ample stores of ammunition the legation guards, which have been increased very largely in number, should be amply able to defend the place for an almost indefinite period.

The theory is that the Chinese have no cannon that they cannot cast and fit up the large weapons of warfare, and that the treaties with the foreign powers, preclude the importation of arms of any kind. This is all very well in theory, and may give perfect confidence to those who occupy various sections of the legation city, but in the first place it is possible that the allied powers did not possess themselves of all the modern pieces of ordnance that the Chinese possessed. That they cannot cast and fit up the large weapons of warfare may or may not be true. Given a little time and some high priced help and there is no saying what the skillful and apt Celestial might not do. He might set up some big gun factories in the interior which his western brother might know nothing of until he found the weapons battering down his legation walls. Lastly the prohibition against importing arms and ammunition even the most sanguine must know will be largely impotent. If arms and ammunition are wanted, and there is money to pay for them, the Chinese can get all they want from the greedy traders of the West, in spite of all treaties and of military and naval cordons.

The Chinese played for time and he has had time. What he calculated upon has happened. Expense and jealousy have together worn down the enthusiasm of the Western powers. Outside of a massacre of the legations, there would probably be no motive which would urge the powers to take the aggressive again. There is an indemnity to pay, but it will be a long time before it is paid, even if it ever will be paid. It begins to look very forcibly as if the Western powers had been outwitted by the extremely—like diplomats of China.

## UNFORTUNATE.

The contest between the partisans of Sampson and Schley still goes on, and seems to grow in bitterness as it continues. It is a most unfortunate affair which it will take a very impartial historian of the future to unravel. To the would-be impartial looker on of the day, there seems no reason to accuse either Sampson of dilatoriness, or Schley of cowardice. Sampson planned and watched. He was away, it is true, at the critical moment, but had every reason to go and consult with General Shafter. Any one who knows anything of Schley, personally, or who has followed his career must consider the charges of cowardice, in his case as absurd.

The two men are certainly the antipodes of one another. Sampson is cold, self contained, retiring and somewhat haughty in demeanor. Schley is of a warm temperament, effusive, brilliant in speech and thought, and free of manner, like the typical sailor of an earlier period. In point of fact Schley might have sat for his portrait to one of Marryat's jolly naval officers. Sampson, outside of the circle that knows him well and appreciates his solid worth, and his naval skill, is not popular. Schley is the "Idol of Virginia" and adored by the mob. He is a son of Virginia and the populace of Washington delight in doing him honor. At the time that Dewey was received in Washington, Schley received nearly as much cheering whenever he appeared while Sampson was passed by almost in silence.

The latest phase of the quarrel between partisans is the introduction into Maclay's History of the United States Navy of charges of cowardice and insubordination against Admiral Schley, previous to and during the battle of Santiago. The work, which has been prepared by a Navy Department clerk had been adopted as a text book for the Annapolis Naval Academy. Secretary Long has excluded from the course the third volume which contains the objectionable matter.

Of course it is especially unfortunate that this book should have emanated from an employee of the Naval Department, in as much as the Navy Department has been charged with being over partial to Admiral Sampson.

Professor Koebele's theory of killing one insect by its natural enemy has not held good in the case of the Carabids. They were imported to utterly slaughter the Japanese beetle, but the latter continues to flourish and the Carabids have utterly disappeared.

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